



Date: 8-16-17

To: MGC Members

From: Bill Freeman

Dear Club Members,

During the August 7th special meeting of the Megunticook Golf Club Governing Board, unanimous approval was given to a request by the Executive Committee to install an irrigation system for the golf course. As several members have commented, our golf course is old, 116 years old, and it is tired. It needs some upgrading in order to make playing more enjoyable.

This approval was the final step in discussions which have taken place for the past year. In the fall of 2016 the Buildings and Grounds Committee started taking a serious look at what would be needed to improve the course. They quickly agreed that the major impediment was the lack of a system to water the course. A proposal to install an irrigation system was presented at the June Executive Committee Meeting. Because of the size of this potential capital expenditure of \$475,000, the Executive Committee felt it was very important to receive comments from the entire membership. To accomplish this task two information meetings were held in early July. All of the details of the proposal were presented at the meetings and subsequently posted on the club website. The reaction to the proposal has been positive as most members realize the importance of providing the best possible golf and tennis facilities not only for current members but also to attract future members. It is not always possible to please everyone with decisions of this magnitude but all comments have been taken very seriously.

The plan for this large investment does not include a special assessment for each member. There will be an annual dues increase of \$100 in 2018 and \$100 in 2019. To fund this project the club is using funds from the capital account augmented with a short term loan from the Camden National Bank. The plan calls for paying off this loan in less than two years.

The first phase of the installation will begin on August 22nd with the construction of a retention pond located in front of the first tee. Reconstruction of the 4th Green will also take place in conjunction with building the retention pond. This will begin approximately September 10th. The golf course will remain open as usual through October 15 although there will be some adjustments in playing on the 4th Green after September 10th. Weather permitting, the installation of the irrigation piping and sprinkler heads will begin in April 2018 and be completed in June 2018.

This is an exciting time for Megunticook Golf Club, making this major investment helps ensure the future success of the club. I encourage you to contact me if you have questions. I also encourage you to attend this year's Annual Meeting to be held this Friday, August 18th at 5 PM. I hope to see you there.

Bill Freeman

President